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A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to
All the
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INTERESTS
of
Southern Arizona
and Sonora.

Vol. IX. No. 5.

NOGALES, ARIZONA, SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1897.

Whole No. 213

AZTEC RELICS.

Archaeological Specimens at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition.
From the Nashville American.

No other ancient civilization of the old world is so full of interest to the true American as is that of old Mexico—that civilization possessed by the ancient Aztecs, and the remains of which are found buried all through that great southern Republic.

The curiously carved idols of the ancient time, the cruelty to which their devotees were subjected or subjected themselves, and all the other incidents and customs of this strange life are subjects of inquiry still among the leading scholars of the day. And so different was this civilization from any other that ever existed that it has ever baffled the skill of the philologist, so that, except in the most recent years, little or no progress has been made.

A chance to study, or at least to see, something of this ancient civilization is rarely afforded. Fortunately it is, therefore, for all visitors that Mexico is represented at the Tennessee Centennial and International Exposition with a very handsome exhibit of this kind. This exhibit is in charge of J. D. Powell, a former resident of Tennessee, but now a resident of Villa Guerrero, Mexico. Mr. Powell was appointed special commissioner from Mexico by President Diaz, as a compliment to the American citizens of Mexico.

The exhibit is a very creditable one and not only represents Mexico as it was, but Mexico as it is. With the former object in view, the very best representations obtainable of the ancient Aztec civilization have been secured. It consists of the original handiwork of the inhabitants of Mexico prior to the conquest, showing the methods used in manufacturing woolen and cotton articles by Aztec women 500 years ago.

Very noteworthy remains recently excavated or discovered in the ground that has been hitherto comparatively virgin as far as archaeological investigations were concerned are exhibited, showing over 200 of the idols worshipped by the Aztec and Toltec races; knives for sacrificial and war purposes, made of obsidian and flint; vases of gold and obsidian to hold the hearts of victims sacrificed to the gods; pottery placed in their graves containing food for the dead; knives and chisels manufactured by this ancient race; beads of gold, copper, clay and stone; house decorations, showing valuable pieces of this material.

A full collection of all the war implements used in the time of Montezuma is shown, as well as the seats on which he sat as king. Musical instruments of many varieties are present in their original form. Those in charge of many public and private museums in Mexico have allowed the original remains to be shipped here instead of only plaster casts being shown, as was the case at Chicago, Atlanta and New Orleans.

As regards the representation of Mexico as she is today, an effort has been made to have a complete display of the natural and manufactured products of the country, and of everything tending either to show the progress that has been made in the last quarter of a century in the arts of

peace and civilization, or to demonstrate the wonderful potential and natural resources of the country. The mineral exhibit is grand, and while only small specimens are shown, it has demonstrated that Mexico has mountains filled with gold, silver, iron, copper and tin—in fact, all the metals known are here represented.

The fibers compose an interesting part of the exhibit, among them being the maguey, henequin or sisal hemp, ixtle, pite, jute, ramie, flax, aloe and cotton. Very fine specimens of raw silk are exhibited, and Mr. Powell says that, while this is a new industry in Mexico, it has proven quite successful.

Tobacco, rice, coffee and sugar are exhibited that speak volumes for the productiveness of this sunny southland. A reproduction of all the natural flowers of Mexico, for a country that is noted for its beautiful flowers. The exhibit of the woods of Mexico comprises over 200 varieties, useful for making furniture and for building purposes.

The fine display of drawn work is charming to the ladies and they never cease to praise the art here displayed by the Indian women, by whom it is made.

An exhibit by the Toluca brewery is a fine display, and while this industry is in its infancy in Mexico, the exhibit will compare with the home breweries. A collection of very ancient Spanish shawls, worn by the ancient Spanish rulers, is beautifully displayed. Bamboo canes, over 90 feet in length, from the state of Vera Cruz are quite a curiosity.

A full line of the footwear of Mexico shows the style of that country, and in some instances they appear to be fully up with Americans in a stylish shoe.

Rag figures showing all the lower walks of life in Mexico are an interesting study to those who contemplate a visit to that country.

Beautiful paintings by Mexican artists are to be seen on the walls—scenes that are only to be seen in Mexico. One represents the "Valley of Mexico," and is particularly good. It shows the whole Valley of Mexico, its lakes, etc., and in the distance is to be seen the snow-capped volcanoes of Popocatepetl and Oxtucibanalt. This is a great work of the artist, and receives praises from all who see it.

A plat farm for cacti shows over 300 of these curious plants, and includes over 200 different varieties.

The Mexican exhibit is not only a credit to its manager and Mexico, but is a credit to the Centennial Exposition, and Tennesseans with the people of the whole United States exclaim when they see it: "Vive Mexico!"

Nogales Town Council.

The town board met in called session Saturday afternoon, June 12th, 1897. Present Mayor G. A. Avery; Councilmen Theo. Gebler, J. T. Brickwood, J. J. Noon; Clerk A. J. Griswold.

A resolution was presented and adopted authorizing the clerk to apply, under seal of the town, to the United States surveyor general for a survey of the townsite precedent to an application for patent, and to ask that Philip Cortez be appointed deputy surveyor to perform the same. Council adjourned.

SONORA SIFTINGS.

A Collection of Happenings in the State Over the Line.

SCHLITZ beer is sold as SCHLITZ beer, and J. T. Brickwood sells it at 10 cents (Mexican) per glass.

A concession has been granted for establishing a bank in Sonora, which will be backed by heavy capital.

El Boletín Minero states "on good authority" that the English company which bought the Grand Central and Amarillas mines is exporting monthly \$80,000 in gold.

General Louis E. Torres, the conqueror of the Yaquis, has been complimented by the people of Healecho, in the state of Yucatan, who have named a new race track in his honor.

Engineer Ignacio Bonillas, who has been over in the Nacosari country, reports that the Bisbee railway have a party of engineers in the field making a reconnaissance with a view to extending their road into Sonora.

The Studebaker wagons, for which Miguel Lutz & Brother, of Magdalena, are state agents, is selling in Sonora in great numbers, the reliability and service of those widely known vehicles making them very popular; several carloads have been imported the present season.

El Comercio relates that at Sabun-rigo recently two ladies of the local aristocracy engaged in a public dispute over the affections of a young man, with whom both were smitten, creating quite a scandal. A policeman escorted them to jail, where in duance they were given an opportunity to cool their excited passions.

Tuesday Guaymas was visited by Gen. Louis E. Torres, Col. Francisco Peinado, and Secretary Francisco Muñoz, who were also accompanied by Tetabiate, the Yaqui chief, with his subordinates, Villa, Amarillas and Espinoza. The chiefs were shown over the city, evincing great curiosity and expressing satisfaction at what they saw.

Last week THE OASIS contained an account of the narrow escape of Tom Rodgers in a shaft at Minas Prietas. The item stated that the occurrence transpired in the new La Calorada shaft. THE OASIS is now reliably informed that the new Grand Central shaft was the scene of the trouble, and that the item as originally printed was in error in that particular.

El Imparcial says: It seems that Sonora occupies the second place among the states of the republic in the production of oranges. In the list San Luis Potosi stands first with a crop last season of 33,270,000 oranges; Sonora second, 25,625,000; Michoacan, 5,202,500, and Jalisco; Nuevo Leon and Oaxaca following in the order named, but without statement of the numbers.

Republican: Henry and R. C. Fowler returned yesterday from a month's trip through the state of Sonora. The journey was made a wheel and they had the distinction of introducing the bicycle into parts of Mexico in which none had ever been seen before. They imported the wheels into the republic, paying a tariff of \$1.20 apiece. They could have saved indirect tax by executing a bond not intended to flood Mexi-

co with American products. The roads, they saw, are very good. They went down the country through Hermosillo to Guaymas. From Guaymas they went by boat to the mouth of the Yaqui river and wheeled up the valley for a hundred miles. Bicycle traveling is comparatively cheap in Mexico, as board and lodging costs one-half as much as in this country. That is, it costs as many Mexican dollars there as it costs American dollars on this side. The trip was an enjoyable one and they brought back with them an accumulation of muscle, tan and a favorable opinion of the country.

El Paso Tribune: Hugh T. Richards the former manager of the Sonora Railway, has secured an option on the Occidental Railway, of Sinaloa, Mexico. This railroad runs from the port of Altata on the Gulf of California, to Culiacan, capital of the State of Sinaloa and also owns a line of coasting steamers. Among them the Altata, and Porfirio Diaz, which ply between Altata, Agiabampo, Peribueco, Mazatlan, La Paz and Guaymas. Mr. Richards represents a syndicate of American capitalists, and stock in new enterprise will be held by parties in Chicago and Denver. The principal stock holders of the Occidental Railway Company are Sebastian Camacho, of Mexico, and Robert R. Symonds, of London. The price at which they agree to part with the constructed line and concessions is \$720,000 gold, payable as to the first \$50,000 on taking over the line, \$50,000 on July next and the balance in instalments of which the last is payable in January, 1899.

The president has transmitted to the senate a treaty annexing Hawaii, whereat the London Chronicle is filled with misgivings for the success of the "new American experiment of colonial expansion." Should the able British newspaper quoted make a careful introspection it would probably find itself "full of prunes" (to use the latest American colloquialism) which it has mistaken for misgivings.

An elegant variety of Mexican drawn linen work, consisting of ladies' handkerchiefs, mats, table covers and doyleys; Mexican curios, books and stationery, periodicals and illustrated papers. Subscriptions for any paper taken.

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